

## **Rocky Hill Board of Health –Minutes of the Meeting on April 8, 2008**

Location: Borough Hall

The meeting time and location has been published in advance on the Rocky Hill Official Website and the Star-Ledger daily newspaper.

**Members present:** Beverly Poelstra, M.D. (presiding); Susan Fisher, V.M.D.; Mary Germain, Ed.D, APRN-BC, FNAP;

**Members not present:** Lisbeth Haines, M.D.; Margaret Querec, M.S.N, R.N

**Present:** Robert Uhrík, substituting for Health Officer, Stephen Papenberg  
William Hallman, Borough Council Liaison

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 P.M.

### **Review and Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of February 12, 2008 were approved following a motion by Dr. Fisher which was seconded by Dr. Poelstra.

### **Report of the Health Officer (R. Uhrík representing S. Papenberg)**

Several handouts from Mr. Papenberg were distributed by Mr. Uhrík. These included:

- An announcement of a panel discussion entitled “Underage Drinking in our Communities – a Focus on Solutions” to be held on April 29, 2008, sponsored by The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County.
- A press release from the New Jersey AIDS/HIV/STD Hotline entitled “Raising Awareness – Epidemic among African Americans”.
- Minutes from the January 16, 2008 meeting of the New Jersey Cancer Coalition (SCCC) and an announcement of the next meeting on Wednesday April 16, 2008 at 9:30 to 1:00 am.
- An official CDC Health advisory, received through NJLINCS Health Alert Network, advising of Measles outbreaks in the United States. These are primarily in Arizona and San Diego but cases have also been seen in New York. The first occurrence in these outbreaks was associated with travel abroad, notably Switzerland and Israel where large outbreaks are occurring.
- A guide to proper handling of bat exposures from the NJ DHSS, dated June 2007. The introduction and New Jersey history sections report that among the 19 naturally occurring cases of Rabies in humans from 1997 to 2006, 90% were associated with exposure to bats. In many cases no bite was involved. In 1997 a Warren, NJ man died of Rabies, apparently from contact with bats in his home. It was the first human case in New Jersey since 1971. The handout details the criteria for post-exposure prophylaxis and specimen collection and submission of suspect bats for laboratory testing by the state.

### **Old Business**

- Mr. Uhrík reported no new developments regarding health department consolidation.
- Dr. Poelstra reported on the most recent Municipal Alliance meeting, which she attended. New incentives include the awarding a scholarship to a high school senior and free tickets to Patriot’s games. Dr. Poelstra will not be available for the April 14, 2008 meeting, however Brian Griner may attend.
- It appears that the problem of an uncovered sandbox behind the preschool remains unchanged.

### **New Business**

Dr. Poelstra reports that the superintendent of Montgomery Township schools has initiated a policy of sending home children found to be infested with head lice. She points out that this is not considered a necessary or desirable step by the standards of best practices in pediatrics. It was agreed by the board that

Dr. Poelstra will communicate the source of this opinion and the board's concurrence with it in a letter to the Superintendent.

**Updates on the Board of Health Plan for 2007-2008**

- Communication
  - The R.H. BOH Website: Dr. Fisher presented an update on the progress of the website design and content. Most of the main pages have sufficient content to allow publication on line soon. A previously set deadline of June appears reasonable at the present time.
  - Board of Health Newsletter: Dr. Haines will be preparing an educational item for the next newsletter, to be circulated by the Rocky Hill Community Group.
- Prevention
  - Rabies Clinic - Mr. Uhrig distributed a memorandum confirming the arrangements for the Rocky Hill Rabies Clinic to be held on Thursday April 17, 2008 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Dr. Tokiwa, an area veterinarian, will be administering the vaccinations.
  - Small Animal Control Contract - ??
  - Animal Ordinance Update – Dr. Fisher and Dr. Poelstra distributed the most current revision of the ordinance. Dr. Fisher recommended that a further provision be added to pro-rate registrations that fell in months other than April, the annual renewal month, in order to encourage timely compliance. After discussion a motion was made by Dr. Fisher and seconded by Dr. Poelstra to charge a fee equal to 1/12<sup>th</sup> of the annual fee times the remaining number of months in the current registration period. The motion was passed and it was agreed that Dr. Fisher and Dr. Poelstra would revise the wording and submit it to the Borough Council for review by the Borough attorney.
  - Community Pet Survey - The last animal census was done in 2002. A new census will be done, however the details of who will do it and when it will be performed are still undecided. The mayor is involved in the plans and the expectation is that it will be done in the spring. The board discussed again whether the survey should be done by the existing constables or by contracted individuals, and whether, if done by the constables, they should receive additional compensation or not.
- Preparedness
  - Individual Emergency Planning
  - Emergency Operations Plan

The time of the next meeting was confirmed to be Tuesday May 13, 2008 at 4:30P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 P.M. following a motion by Dr. Fisher and seconded by Dr. Poelstra.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Fisher